

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4031

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 2289

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, CA

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: SIMON LETTER

REF: (A) STATE 155405; (B) OTTAWA 2275

1. DR. WILLIAM HOOD, ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE, TODAY GAVE ECON COUNSELOR FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO SIMON LETTER:

A. SIMON INITIATIVE REFLECTS CONTINUING U.S. DESIRE TO GET ON WITH THE WORK AND CANADA WELCOMES IT.

B. SUGGESTION THAT NEW COMMITTEE BE ORGANIZED BY GOVERNMENTS OUTSIDE FORMAL BANK AND FUND STRUCTURE CAUSES "A BIT OF CONCERN." C-20 AGREED TO SET UP JOINT COMMITTEE OF BANK AND FUND. NEW COMMITTEE MUST REPRESENT SOME 120 COUNTRIES AND BANK AND FUND HAVE FORMULA FOR ACHIEVING THIS (EVEN THOUGH BANK AND FUND "CONSTITUENCIES" ARE NOT PRECISELY IDENTICAL AND WOULD HAVE TO BE JIGGLED SLIGHTLY IN SOME CASES). THERE ARE ALSO SUCH PRACTICAL QUESTIONS AS HOW TO PAY COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT WHICH CAN BE HANDLED MORE EASILY IF COMMITTEE IS PART OF BANK AND FUND STRUCTURE. HOOD'S "PERSONAL REACTION" IS TO PREFER STICKING WITH JOINT COMMITTEE CONCEPT.

C. IDEA OF SELECTING A COMMITTEE SECRETARY A LA
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JEREMY MORSE IS GOOD ONE AND SHOULD HELP TO

EXPEDITE WORK.

D. THE SECRETARY SHOULD HAVE A FULL-TIME STAFF
BUT THIS SHOULD BE SMALL, PERHAPS TEN PEOPLE.
"LET'S HAVE NO BIG BUREAUCRACY."

E. IT IS "TERRIBLY IMPORTANT" TO HAVE CLOSEST
COOPERATION BETWEEN COMMITTEE AND BANK AND FUND
AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FIELD. CANADA WOULD
EXPECT SMALL FULL-TIME STAFF TO MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE
LIAISON.

F. A MEETING OF DEPUTIES IN ADVANCE OF THE
MINISTERIAL MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL. CANADA HAS
NO PROBLEM WITH THE PROPOSED DATE OF SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29.

2. HOOD SAID FINANCE MINISTER TURNER WOULD BE
SENDING FORMAL RESPONSE TO SIMON IN DUE COURSE.

3. STATE 156260 CLARIFYING PARAGRAPH BREAKDOWN
OF SIMON LETTER WAS RECEIVED AFTER LETTER TO TURNER
DELIVERED. WE HAD GUESSED RIGHT WITH ONE
EXCEPTION: LETTER TO TURNER LUMPS FIRST TWO
PARAGRAPHS TOGETHER AS ONE.
JOHNSON

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